policy laid down by Government that frequent transfers of village officers in short vacancies should be deprecated and in consideration of efficiency.

161. Mr. Ouseph P. Kundukulam.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(1) whether Rama Panikkar, the present acting Parvatiam of Kaiparamba Group Villages of Trichur Taluk, has ever been the clerk of the Kaiparamba Group Village Panchayat;

(2) if so, whether there had been any complaints against him as Panchayat clerk;

(3) if the answer to (2) above is in the affirmative, what were the complaints ;

(4) whether the complaints were enquired into, and if so, what was the result of the enquiry ;

(5) how and when the said Rama Panikkar severed his connection with the Panchayat ?

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—(1) Yes.

(2) Yes.

(3) The complaint was that Rama Panikkar forged the signature of the then President of the Panchayat.

(4) The complaint was duly enquired into with the result that Rama Panikkar was found to be blameless.

(5) He was relieved of his duties as Panchayat clerk on his own request on 15th Mithunam 1100.

162. Mr. Ouseph P. Kundukulam.—Will the Government be pleased to state if and why the Superintendent of Agriculture and Panchayats took objection when one Raman Changarath Rama Panikkar, the then Village Menon of Avanoor Group Villages, began to discharge the duties of the Panchayat clerk of the Group Panchayats as his predecessors were doing ?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.— Yes; because his behaviour while he was the clerk of the Kaiparamba Panchayat Office was very unsatisfactory.

Canal from Coonnoolly canal to Vettikadavu.

163. Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Will the Government be pleased to state what steps have been taken by the Government for opening a canal from the Coonnoolly canal to Vettikadavu and whether correspondence regarding this matter will be placed on the Table?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—The question of the proposed canal is under investigation by P. W. D. As a major portion of the alignment of the canal passes through British territory, the Madras Government has to be addressed on the completion of the investigation. And, as it stands, no public

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purpose would be served by placing the records on the Table.

Grant to the Ernakulam Public Library and Reading Room.

164. Mr. V. K. Kochunni Menon.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(1) has the Diwan suspended the annual grant which was being paid to the Ernakulam Public Library and Reading Room since 1870;

(2) if so, what were the reasons for suspending it;

(3) was not the grant once sanctioned by His Highness the Maharaja in 1870 when the Library was started;

(4) were there any conditions imposed when the grant was sanctioned other than those implied in the Rules of the Ernakulam Public Library and Reading Room; if so, what were they;

(5) what was the nature of the grant then;

(6) were any conditions imposed in 1896 when this grant was converted into an annual grant; if so, what are they;

(7) has the Managing Committee failed to fulfil any of those conditions;

(8) (i) was there any inspection of this institution by the Government or its deputy till 1926; (ii) what was the special reason or necessity for insisting on it in 1929, and under what authority?

(9) are the conditions of the grant to the Ernakulam Public Library and Reading Room the same as those under the Grant-in-aid Rules;

(10) what is the amount of the grant to the Ernakulam Public Library and Reading Room;

(11) what is the maximum amount ordinarily allowable under the Grant-in-aid Rules;

(12) is not the grant to the Ernakulam Public Library and Reading Room to meet the full cost of books and non-Indian periodicals purchased during the year and that under the Grant-in-aid Rules, to meet half the cost of books and periodicals, whether Indian or non-Indian;

(13) was the suspension of the grant made by the Diwan with the sanction of His Highness the Maharaja; does it not require such sanction?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—(1) Yes; but the grant for 1105 has since been allowed.

(2) Because the Managing Committee of the Ernakulam Public Library and Reading Room did not permit the Senior Inspector of Schools to inspect its accounts, registers, etc.

(3) Yes.

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